

**Communications
Workers of America**
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March 1, 2004

Ms. Marlene Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Ms. Dortch:

**RE: Ex Parte Notice. WC Docket No. 02-361. Petition for Declaratory Ruling that AT&T's
Phone-to-Phone IP Telephony Services Are Exempt from Access Charges.**

Today Morton Bahr, President, Communications Workers of America sent the attached letter to Chairman Michael K. Powell with a copy to Commissioners Jonathan Adelstein, Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, and Kevin Martin in the above-captioned proceeding.

Mr. Bahr urged the Commission to clarify that a carrier's decision to use Internet protocol technology to route traditional long-distance calls does not relieve a carrier of its universal service and access charge obligations under the Telecommunications Act. Further, Mr. Bahr noted that the Commission need not address the question of whether any ruling is retroactive or prospective, but should simply declare that the law is and always has been that access charges apply to the service at issue here.

Sincerely,

Debbie Goldman, Research Economist
Research and Development Department

cc: Chairman Michael C. Powell
Commissioner Jonathan Adelstein
Commissioner Kathleen Abernathy
Commissioner Michael Copps
Commissioner Kevin Martin